## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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**ORIGIN SS-25** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O APPROVED BY S/S-O

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 216905 TOSEC 250035

**EXDIS** 

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 6023 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO. 01 SEP 76

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 6023

**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR US EG IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST AMOCO RIG IN GULF OF SUEZ

REFS: (A) TEL AVIV 5991; (B) TEL AVIV 6000; (C) CAIRO 11704

1. I AM, OF COURSE, PLEASE THAT A CONFRONTATION WAS AVOIDED IN THE GULF AS WELL AS RELIEVED TO GET ISRAELI ASSURANCES THAT THEY HAD NOT MISLED US WITH THE INFORMATION THEY GAVE US LAST NIGHT. IN ADDITION TO THE IDF INFORMATION (REF B), I HAD EARLIER, AT 0130 HOURS, BEEN INFORMED BY EVRON THAT NO ULTIMATUM HAD IN FACT BEEN SERVED ON THE U.S. DRILLSHIP. AFTER REVIEWING THE BIDDING OF THE LAST TWO DAYS, I WOULD BE SURPRISED INDEED IF THE ISRAELI ACCOUNT OF EVENTS WERE NOT ESSENTIALLY ACCURATE. WE MAY BE DISPLEASED WITH THEIR ACTIONS IN THE GULF, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY WOULD MISLEAD US ON THE SCALE SUGGESTED BY THE MARINER CAPTAIN'S REPORTING.

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2. AS FOR THE FUTURE, THE ISRAELIS HAVE MADE VERY CLEAR THAT THEY REGARD THE MEDIAN LINE AS THE DEMARCATION IN THE GULF (TEL AVIV 5611). THE LATEST INCIDENT SUGGESTS THAT THEY WILL BE VERY DETERMINED IN HOLDING TO THIS POLICY. IN PARTICULAR, I SEE LITTLE PROSPECT THAT THEY CAN BE INDUCED TO ALLOW AMOCO TO DRILL AT THE DISPUTED SITE 304.1 UNLESS WE ARE ABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE ISRAELIS ON THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE AREA, I BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ADVISE AMOCO TO RESTRICT ITS DRILLING OPERATIONS TO AREAS WEST OF THE MEDIAN LINE. TOON UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 JUN 2004

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

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Subject: ISRAELI ACTION AGAINST AMOCO RIG IN GULF OF SUEZ

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, US, EG, IS, AMOCO To: SECRETARY

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